

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. JONES, R.A.

ON Saturday last, the room usually allotted to sculpture in the exhibition of the Royal Academy was crowded by the concourse of former and actual students of that institution, on the occasion of the presentation (by the hands of Mr. A. H. Cooper, on the part of the 100 subscribers) of a large silver Etruscan tassa, inscribed

TO GEORGE JONES, ESQ., R.A.,
SECRETER OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY,
FROM THE STUDENTS OF THAT INSTITUTION,
MARCH, 1845.

and offered in grateful remembrance of his kindly attention to their wishes, and his affectionate regard for their success and interests. Believing as artists, the subscribers did not seek for something already manufactured, which they might purchase, but selected an antique and unusual though very excellent form; which, slightly modified, is much more ornamental, as well as useful, than the upright vase, the ordinary presentation cup.

Mr. Jones's annual farewell to the students (this being the last night of the season) was displaced by a forcible and affecting speech, in which he mentioned that his anxiety to fulfil the duties of his post had always been so fully met by the assiduity and gentlemanlike conduct of the students, that the gratification thence arising rendered the present token as unexpected as any support from the members of the Academy had been unnecessary. He mentioned that Mr. Mulready, who with Mr. Eddy accompanied him, had been his earliest friend in that, "the antique school," and had been his competitor for the honourable office he now filled. He also expressed in words the interest he felt for the students, as brothers in the art, and with great emotion proclaimed his hope that his senses might at the last still enable him to see in this manifestation of the feeling of the students that he had endeavoured to fulfil, and, indeed, had done his duty.

The presence of Mr. Mulready on this occasion, so creditable to his own feelings and gratifying to his friend, was marked with extreme applause by an audience much affected by the address of Mr. Jones.

REVENUE FROM BRICKS AND GLASS.

An Account of the net Receipt of the Duties of Excise on Bricks and Glass during the last Ten Years.

	Eng- land.	Scot- land.	Ire- land.	Total.
1835* Bricks.	391,213	8,361	..	399,574
Glass.	4,112	20,184	15,738	39,034
1836 Bricks.	465,109	8,733	..	473,842
Glass.	593,777	30,568	10,934	635,279
1837 Bricks.	439,881	9,461	..	449,342
Glass.	371,333	38,837	10,666	420,836
1838 Bricks.	418,851	7,815	..	426,666
Glass.	619,826	30,137	9,879	659,842
1839 Bricks.	456,437	12,909	..	469,346
Glass.	615,761	34,817	18,313	668,891
1840 Bricks.	594,981	18,498	..	613,479
Glass.	606,141	36,190	9,466	651,797
1841 Bricks.	431,255	11,708	..	442,963
Glass.	611,582	46,737	8,850	667,169
1842 Bricks.	543,740	9,360	..	553,100
Glass.	532,899	34,397	7,764	575,060
1843 Bricks.	314,177	7,194	..	321,371
Glass.	346,166	39,980	8,748	394,914
1844 Bricks.	429,157	10,798	..	439,955
Glass.	600,334	33,188	9,250	642,772

INSTITUTION OF BUILDERS' FOREMEN.

We have received the rules of this Institution, established for mutual assistance in cases of emergency, and have read them with gratification. Its object is to maintain the respectability of the foremen in their different branches, to provide against accidents, and to obtain an asylum for decayed members. It seems to us that the masters would do well by encouraging such institutions, as tending to induce habits of prudence and forethought, and to increase the respectability of those engaged by them. By subscribing nine guineas per annum they become "honorary members," and take part in the government of the Institution.

* First glass reduced, 10th October, 1835, from 6d. to 3d. per lb.

† Bricks, the duty on all bricks, except common, reduced from various rates to 10s. per 1000, from 27th August, 1839.

‡ Second glass, duty increased 10th August, 1840, from 1d. 10s. to 3d. 12s. 6d. per cwt.

§ First glass, duty reduced 5th July, 1844, from 3d. to 2d. per lb.

CAUTION TO RAILWAY SURVEYORS.

LORD HARBOROUGH AND THE PETERBOROUGH RAILWAY SURVEYORS, &c.

THREE causes all came on for hearing before Lord Chief Justice Tindal and common juries, at Leicester, last Tuesday week.

Mr. Whitehurst, Q.C., Mr. Mellor, and Mr. Flowers appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Hill, Q.C., and Mr. Macaulay for the defendants. It appeared that after two previous unsuccessful attempts had been made to survey Lord Harborough's park for the railroad from Syston to Peterborough, early on a Saturday in November last, the defendants, with seventy or eighty people, came before daylight to the park with measuring chains flag staves, &c., and distinguished by white badges, with the evident determination to proceed with their survey. They were resisted by a considerable number of Lord Harborough's people, and after a severe struggle and fight, were compelled to retreat.

The Lord Chief Justice summed up with great clearness, to the effect that parties so assembling in the manner and under circumstances given in evidence, were clearly guilty of a riot, and were of right resisted by Lord Harborough's people, who were justified in using the necessary force to turn them out of the park.

Mr. Hill addressed the jury, who, without much deliberation, returned a verdict against all of *Guilty* of an assault, and they were respectively sentenced to be imprisoned for one month, and to pay a fine of 1s.

WARD V. LORD HARBOROUGH AND OTHERS.

This was an action for trespass and false imprisonment, and damaging a theodolite.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Macaulay appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Mellor and Mr. Flowers for the defendants. This action arose out of the attempts to survey the park of Lord Harborough on a previous day. The servants of Lord Harborough, without any violence, after warning the plaintiff and his followers off the towing path of the canal running through the park, took him into custody. They permitted the plaintiff to go away in his own carriage, and used no violence; but the theodolite was pitched out of a cart and broken.

Mr. Mellor addressed the jury, admitting that there must be a verdict against all the defendants, except Lord Harborough, as to whom the Lord Chief Justice had already intimated that there was no evidence; but he contended that it had been proved by the witnesses for the plaintiff that the damage to the theodolite might be repaired at an expense of from 7s. to 12s., and that, as far damages beyond, a half-farthing would be enough.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with 8s. damages.

LORD HARBOROUGH V. WARD AND COPE.

This action was for a trespass on the occasion of the riot; and after Mr. Mellor had addressed the jury for the plaintiff, the Lord Chief Justice suggested that a juror should be withdrawn, which was immediately consented to by Mr. Mellor on Lord Harborough's part.

The Lord Chief Justice then sentenced the defendants on the conviction for an assault, and stated his regret that persons of their education and profession should have permitted themselves to be engaged in a transaction which was quite unjustifiable in law, and which it was his bounden duty to visit with punishment. The sentence was, as before stated, that they and each of them should be imprisoned for one calendar month in her Majesty's gaol, but should be placed in ward No. 1, and subjected to an unnecessary hardship, and should be each fined one shilling.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—The 22nd exhibition of this society, now open to the public, cannot be regarded as satisfactory. Pyne, Holland, Allen, Woolmer, Baxter, Herring, Clint, and some others, have each one or more charming pictures; but the majority of the works are, we grieve to say it, of very indifferent character.

DISTRICT SURVEYORS' FEAR.—A correspondent informs us that a builder about to put in some putlogs, in order to put in the front of a house in Lewisham, was required by the district surveyor to give him notice, and to agree to pay him a fee, on the ground that the builder was about to cut into an external wall!

PROJECTING BUILDINGS—PARTY WALLS.

JURISDICTION OF OFFICIAL REFEREES.

SIR,—I would close my remarks upon the Building Act by stating, it appears to me that the referees in their official capacity become public property, and that their acts, expressed through the medium of the authority with which they are clothed, may be courtously open to animadversion and comment. Perchance the Act itself is not explicit; it is held, my opinion would be against the complexity of the Act, and not against the mode of carrying it into effect. Leaving, therefore, this issue to be settled, I regret to state, that what has come to my knowledge, that a more oppressive, vexatious, and arbitrary piece of legislation never emanated from our House of Parliament. All will agree that the portion respecting the comforts of the humbler class, as to light, air, and accommodation to dwelling in densely-populated neighbourhoods, is an exceptionable. The remaining broad feature for public benefit was protection (as by the former Act) against accidents by fire. In the large suburban district where I live I recollect no fire in a private house for the last twenty years, and but very rarely in shops; yet now even in rural districts within the operation of the Act (except in the case of isolated buildings) addieu to ornamental barge boards, decorative eaves, Italian roofs, &c., we must now assume the rigidity of parapets and projecting party-walls, except by adopting the present regulations that all such projections shall be of the same material as the walls.

In fulfilment of my promise, I will set out some portions of the award in the case alluded to in my last letter, respecting a building commenced before 1st January, and carried up 6 feet, and this doctrine is held to be good even with such buildings roofed in. "Now we, the said official referees, do hereby limit, determine, and award, that the said works at a rebuilding, enlarging, and altering of a building within the meaning of the terms of a 'already built' building, as mentioned in the said Act, and that on and from 1st January 1845, the same came within and were subject to the supervision of the said —, the surveyor of the said district, and that he was and is bound to see the rules and directions of the said Act strictly observed with respect thereto, and that the said works or building, if carried up on the line of the external wall now built, would be beyond the general line of the buildings on that side of such road." It then directs, "that the said — do pay the sum of 15s. 11s. 8d., as and for the fees of officers, being the costs for seeking an explanation of an obscure clause; my objections to the interpretation of which will be found in the subjoined letter sent to the registrar.

My reason for suggesting in the last letter that the award is "insufficient for uncertainty" is, that instead of the referees exercising their authority by ordering the alleged nuisance to be abated, it is merely referred back to the district surveyor. Should the party be contumacious and prove (which I hold he is quite justified in doing), the district surveyor must then commence new proceedings, and from another portion of the award he will find himself in a difficulty. This "commencement" is to a house at the corner of a street, which partaking (as relates to the road in front) of a circular form, the houses beyond such structure assume another "general line," the architect sent down by the referees has by a dotted line elongated each of these "general lines," intersecting each other on the building in progress,—the result being, that if one line is adopted it would condemn only about one moiety in extent to what the other would; and the referees are silent in the instructions to the district surveyor which is to be deemed the "general line." It may also be mentioned that the house to which this addition has been made, recedes from the general line 22 feet, the new building being 28 feet deep; it consequently is only 6 feet, or 3 feet (as the above dotted lines may be adopted), that is sought to be condemned.

With respect to the decision in the case of "want of consent" as to party-walls, I would refer to the subjoined letter, having expounded such portions as were touched upon in my last letter, and referring your readers to my pre-